



CITY OF LONG BEACH
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION AND MARINE
COMMISSION ON YOUTH AND CHILDREN
MINUTES
February 23, 2005

I. CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Rebecca Turrentine, Co-Chair, called the meeting of the Commission on Youth and Children to order at 5:10 p.m., in the large conference room at the Parks, Recreation and Marine Senior Center. Roll call was taken and a quorum was confirmed.

Present:

Sothea Chhay
Fabian Gonzalez
Helen Ingram
Marty Isozaki
Kate Levinstein
Jeanetta McAlpin
Jon Meyer
Victor Perez

Lauren Perry
Alexis Peterson
Jessica Quintana
Marc Rothenberg
Lou Santos
Mary Soth
Chanel Suares
Chelsii Summerville

Absent:

Jennifer To (excused)

Staff:

Cynthia Fogg, Superintendent, Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine
Andrew Romero, Youth Specialist, Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine
Dan Hendricks, Commission Clerk, Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine
Christina Santos, Research and Data Specialist, Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine

Guests:

Phil T. Hester, Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine
Cine D. Ivery, State Senator Alan Lowenthal's Office
Dave Fein, City Councilmember Baker's Office
Deanneka Goodwin, City Councilmember O'Donnell's Office
Adrian Garcia, City Councilmember Uranga's Office
Diane Lewis, Bureau Manager, Community Enrichment Bureau
Reggie Carter, Long Beach City College
Cecile Walters, Neighborhood Services Bureau
Ray Worden, Bureau Manager, Workforce Development Bureau
Jim Kuhl, Environmental Services Bureau
Dan Rosenfeld, Long Beach Transit

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Commissioner Meyer and seconded by Commissioner Perez to approve the December 22, 2004 Commission on Youth and Children minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

III. COMMENTS

Cecile Walters from the Neighborhood Services Bureau addressed the Commission regarding the Youth and Gang Violence Prevention Task Force. They are working on a proposed project to work with non-adjudicated (not currently on probation or otherwise being punished for criminal behavior, but "at risk") youth in Long Beach. Cecile requested that the Commission draft a letter of approval from the Commission regarding the project, and the Title V grant, and deliver it to Cecile Walters.

Adrian Garcia from Councilwoman Uranga's office announced to the Commission that there will be a Partners in Education on Saturday, March 5th at Admiral Kidd Park, Symposium that will discuss the state of our schools. He encouraged the Commissioners to contact Councilmember Uranga's office if they had any questions.

IV. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT TO THE COMMISSION

Cynthia Fogg began by thanking the Commissioners who attended the City Council meeting where they presented their Annual Report for the added time and effort that went into making a presentation. She also informed the Commission that we had run out of copies of the Annual Report, but that more were being made, and could be distributed as needed.

Ms. Fogg discussed the formation of the Coalition for Drug Free Long Beach at the Health Department and mentioned that they currently only had one youth member. She encouraged the youth members of the commission to attend, and to encourage others interested in the program to attend.

Andrew Romero distributed a rough draft of a flyer to promote the District Level Youth Advisory Councils. He clarified that it was just a rough draft, and that several things (such as a photo on the draft) would change to reflect the DLYACs more accurately. When a final draft is completed, they hope to get approval from the LBUSD to distribute the flyer at schools, as well as at youth centers, Council offices, and generally anywhere that youth congregate.

V. CO-CHAIRS REPORT TO THE COMMISSION

Co-Chair Batton addressed the Commission regarding the Long Beach Youth Fund. They have an application deadline of April 15, and any youth organization that needs money can apply. Andrew Romero added that as the Commission is going to be an umbrella over the Youth Fund, they have gotten the RFP done. Andy requested that both youth and adult members of the Commission review it on March 1, 2005. They need enough members there to make a quorum, as they did not have it ready in time for this month's Commission meeting. The grant-writing workshop will be on March 22, 2005, applications are due April 15, 2005 and the presentation will be April 28, 2005. There will be a dinner on May 22, 2005. Grants will be between \$250 and \$2,000.

Co-Chair Turrentine took some time on behalf of the entire Commission to thank the staff for their work on the Annual Report, as well as guiding the Commission in general, during the first year. Each staff member was gifted with a lighthouse

statuette. Co-Chair Turrentine also thanked Phil T. Hester for his interest in, and support of, the Commission on Youth and Children and for agreeing to be the direct contact between the Commission and the Long Beach Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine. The Co-Chair also announced that Smithsonian Week is coming up in March, and they have invited the Commission to send a representative to one of their events on March 6th. Mrs. Turrentine also discussed her visit to one of the 21st Century Community Learning Center sites at Butler Elementary and was very impressed by their afterschool programs being run there. She also discussed the Youth and Gang Violence Prevention Task Force meeting, which she attended.

VI. REPORTS

a. Committees

I. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, Commissioners Turrentine and Batton, Co-Chairs (January 26th and February 8th meetings)

The Executive Committee met an additional time to review plans for the second year and major endeavors they hope to have the Commission work on over the next year. The Committee expressed the belief that having annual meetings with the Council members and their DLYACs was a positive influence on both, and discussed the idea of attempting to meet with each Councilmember again in their second year.

It was moved by Commissioner Soth and seconded by Commissioner Suarez to authorize staff to schedule one annual meeting with Mayor and Members of the City Council, to include youth and adult members of respective council district, executive committee members, where possible, and staff, throughout 2005. The motion passed unanimously.

II. PROFILE PROJECT COMMITTEE Superintendent Cynthia Fogg

The Profile Project committee indicated that until the City Council determined whether or not to continue the project, they did not feel they should act without direction from the Council.

It was moved by Commissioner Quintana and seconded by Commissioner Perry to Suspend meetings until after March 15 Action by the City Council. The motion passed unanimously.

III. PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

With heightened public awareness of the Commission due to its Annual Report and a recent interview with the Grunion Gazette, it was deemed beneficial to form a committee to deal with the public relations aspect of the Commission. Commission Co-Chair Pierre Batton and Commissioners McAlpin, Peterson, Perry, and Summerville all volunteered to serve on the Committee. They determined that they will elect Co-Chairs of the Committee at their first meeting.

It was moved by Commissioner Perez and seconded by Commissioner McAlpin to approve the formation of a Public Relations Committee. The motion passed unanimously.

b. Standing Items

I. Education and Youth Strategic Plan

There were no comments on the plan at this meeting.

II. District Level Youth Advisory Councils

a. Report on September DLYAC meetings.

Andrew Romero and the various youth Commissioners present reported on the following schedules for the District Level Youth Advisory Councils.

<i>District 1</i>	Met on Feb 7, reviewed beach clean-up, and is looking to engage in similar activities. Also determined to start meeting twice a month, and nominated officers
<i>District 2</i>	They have set a day and time for their meetings, and are proceeding to set up their council
<i>District 3</i>	Will meet Feb 28, 2004
<i>District 4</i>	Met on Feb 16 at the United Cambodian Center with 12 people, discussing sponsoring a beach clean-up
<i>District 5</i>	Will have their first meeting on March 3, 2004
<i>District 6</i>	Pending – looking to set a monthly day and time for the meeting, will probably occur in March
<i>District 7</i>	Dark
<i>District 8</i>	Guest from LBPD discussed safety issues
<i>District 9</i>	Will meet Feb 25, 2004

It was moved by Commissioner Quintana and seconded by Commissioner Ingram to receive and file the reports from the November/December DLYAC meetings. The motion carried unanimously.

b. Requests for DLYAC involvement/participation

Co-Chair Turrentine recommended that adult Commissioners attempt to attend the DLYACs in their council districts to see what the youth in their districts are working on and to provide support for their activities.

III. Youth and Gang Violence Task Force

The task force has had two meetings and a leadership retreat in the last two months. The leadership retreat focused on obtaining resources to help out with their programs, with some insights from Rene Castro. They are supporting an essay contest on how to avoid gang violence. Hopefully, this will help increase engagement with youth in high-risk areas. Commander Johnson of the Long Beach Police Department presented a report that indicated that crime for the year in Long Beach was down. A guest

speaker, James Diego Vigil, from the University of California, Irvine, author of several books, including *A Rainbow of Gangs*, gave an informative presentation.

VII. CORRESPONDENCE

Incoming – Thank you note from Deputy City Manager

Outgoing – January 14, 2005 Letter to Harbor Commission

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. **Youth Leadership Institute (YLI) Workshops for CYC (May 26th, 04)** - As the initial workshops to create a closer bond between youth and adult Commission members seem somewhat moot as all the Commissioners seem to get along, the Commission discussed alternate ways to utilize the YLI's talents.

It was moved by Commission Co-Chair Batton and seconded by Commissioner Suarez to authorize staff to negotiate a new agreement for services in lieu of two workshops, to create a Commission / Youth Advisory Council Handbook. The motion carried unanimously.

- b. **Harbor Commission**

The Commission has not yet received a response from the Harbor Commission regarding their proposal in the letter sent to the Harbor Commission.

- c. **CYC Annual Report, January 04-December 04, including the *Profile of Long Beach Youth and Children*** – Staff discussed the fact that the Commission and the Profile project should not take any action on their recommendations to the Council until such time as they are approved. Discussion led to the possibility of meeting with Councilmembers to discuss any questions they may have about the recommendations.

It was moved by Commissioner Perry and seconded by Commissioner Soth to authorize commissioners to work with staff and to act on behalf of the commission by contacting respective council members to ask for their support of the recommendations. The motion carried unanimously.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- a. **City of Long Beach Litter Abatement and Awareness Project** - Jim Kuhl, speaking on behalf of the Environmental Services Bureau, discussed plans for potential educational, outreach and enforcement efforts to implement a *Citywide Litter Abatement and Awareness Program*. He displayed several potential ads that could be placed in various locales and discussed an ad campaign to cut back on litter. Many Commissioners voiced their opinions on the efforts, with particular emphasis on specific ads and a more general discussion on whether they felt a positive or negative ad campaign would be more effective.

It was moved by Commissioner Peterson and seconded by Commissioner Gonzalez to receive and file information and consider further participation in Litter Free Long Beach. The motion carried unanimously.

- b. **Proposed Fare Adjustment – Long Beach Transit** – Dan Rosenfeld, from the Long Beach Transit organization, which is not a City organization, asked for input and answered questions regarding the proposed fare adjustment on Long Beach Transit services. Several Commissioners requested rationale for some specific changes. There was a noted concern that the increase in rates for youth and students would most adversely effect low income families with multiple children as they would have to purchase the most passes with the least wage-earners in the family.

It was moved by Commissioner Perry and seconded by Commissioner McAlpin to authorize staff to formulate a response to proposed rate adjustment (specifically those that affect youth) subject to review and approval of co-chairs and submit by deadline. The motion carried unanimously.

X. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on **Wednesday, March 23rd**, at 5:00 p.m.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Commissioner Chhay and seconded by Commissioner Gonzalez to adjourn the meeting of the Commission on Youth and Children at 7:22 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

**This information is available in an alternative format by request
to Jane Grobaty at (562) 570-3232.**

**The City of Long Beach intends to provide reasonable accommodations in
accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If a special
accommodation is desired, please call Daniel Hendricks
48 hours prior to the meeting, at (562) 570-3538.**